

File System Redesign

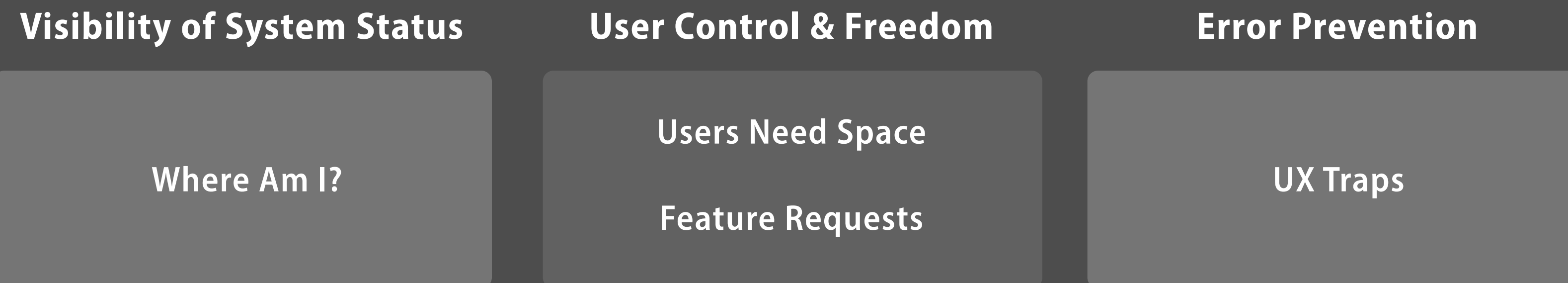
Forum Content Analysis



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Analysis Summary

Our review of posts and discussions occurring on the three main forums for JupyterLab users (GitHub, Discourse, and Google Groups) reveals four basic themes underscoring three core UX principles:



These findings are consistent with the interview data that we analyze by separate cover. In particular, **the “Where Am I?” problem echoes a theme that is repeatedly emerging in our research**, which in broader form not only illustrates a user’s challenge in knowing where they are in their file ecosystem, but of reaching where they want to go in that file ecosystem.

Where Am I?



JLab's startup directory may not be where user wants to be

[Link to Discourse](#)

These are problems of system status visibility.

Users Need Space



File system needs to be big enough when:

- User wants to see full path / tree
- User wants to have multiple directories open, esp. so as to drag & drop files between them

[Link to Discourse](#)

[Link to GitHub](#)

File system needs to be out of the way when user needs space to work on their code

[Link to Discourse](#)

[Link to GitHub](#)

These are problems of user control & freedom.

Feature Requests



1. Favorite / bookmarked files | Link
2. Recent files | Link
3. Breadcrumbs | Link
4. Drag & drop | Link + Link + Link
5. Filtering | Link
6. Mass file migration (upload / download) | Link + Link
7. Home button to parent directory | Link + Link
8. Status bar for file uploads | Link
9. Spring-loaded folders | Link
10. File converter | Link
11. Search functionality | Link

These are problems of user control & freedom.

UX Traps



1. Lack of forcing function on default file name proliferates “untitled” files

[Link to GitHub](#)

2. Accidental overwrites of shared data

[Link to GitHub](#)

3. Case sensitivity (or lack thereof) on files and directories

[Link to GitHub](#)

4. Visual noise of the UI

[Link to Discourse](#)

These are problems of error prevention.